



NRC NEWS

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NRC RELEASES FINAL VERSION OF YUCCA MOUNTAIN REVIEW PLAN

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is issuing the final version of the plan it would use to review an expected application from the Department of Energy (DOE) to construct a high-level nuclear waste geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

The principal purpose of the Yucca Mountain Review Plan is to ensure the quality and uniformity of the NRC staff's reviews. The plan has separate sections for potential reviews of repository safety before permanent closure, safety after permanent closure, the research and development program to resolve safety questions, the performance confirmation program and administrative and programmatic requirements. Each section defines how NRC will review DOE's compliance with NRC regulations.

A copy is available on the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr1804> . Hard copies may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402-0001; telephone: 202-512-1800.

A draft version of the plan was released in March 2002, and public comments were invited during a 5-month public comment period that ended August 12 of last year. The staff also conducted three public meetings in Nevada on the draft plan to solicit comments. Approximately 1000 comments were received.

A Federal Register notice to be published shortly describes the comments, NRC responses and changes to the Review Plan.

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